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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Application of : Shi, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/438,206  
Group Art Unit : 1617  
Examiner : S. Hui  
Filed : November 12, 1999  
For : Methods and Compositions for Treating  
Mammalian Spinal Cord Injuries

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

**Amendment After Final Action**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of November 23, 2001, please amend the application as follows. (Changes shown in APPENDIX A.) In addition, please consider the observations made below with respect to the patentability of the claimed invention.

**In the Claims:**

Amend claim 22 to read as follows:

22. (Once Amended) A method of treating a mammalian patient having suffered an injury to its spinal cord, said method comprising contacting the injured spinal cord within a period no greater than about 24 hours after said injury with a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> polyalkylene glycol in an amount effective to increase a compound action potential in said injured spinal cord relative to a level of said compound action potential immediately after said injury and to increase behavioral recovery after said spinal cord is treated.

Amend claim 30 to read as follows:

30. (Once Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein said polyalkylene glycol is polyethylene glycol and wherein said method further